

E.S.I. Scheme

4024. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance scheme is implemented by the Union and the State Governments;

(b) if so, the details of machinery which ensures coordination between the two agencies;

(c) whether this machinery so far identified the problem in implementation of the scheme and made suggestions to improve the working of the scheme to the satisfaction of the workers and the panel doctors;

(d) if so, the salient features of these recommendations made during the last three years; and

(e) the steps taken to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e) The notification regarding the area in which the ESI Scheme is to be implemented is issued by the Central Government. Thereafter, the Scheme is administered by the ESI Corporation and the State Governments. Except in the case of Delhi and NOIDA, under the existing arrangement medical care is provided by the concerned State Government. However, the expenditure of medical centre is shared by the ESI Corporation and the State Governments in ratio of 7:1. The functioning of the Scheme is reviewed by the ESI Corporation, its general purpose committee and the regional boards which are tripartite bodies consisting of representative of Government, employers and employees. The cash benefits to insured persons are administered by the ESI Corporation through its regional/local offices. There have been sporadic complaint about shortage of doctors, medicines, equipments, etc. in the hospitals/dispensaries. Such complaints are forwarded to State Government for taking remedial action. There have been no serious complaints with regard to administration of cash benefits.

Seminar at Garden Reach Rail Institute

4025. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a Seminar was held at Garden Reach Rail Institute on January 19, 1997 on "Safety and Technical Progress" organised by Diploma Engineer Association of Railwaymen (DEAR);

(b) if so, the details of the said seminar;

(c) whether the Government have taken note of those suggestions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No such Seminar was conducted. However, it is understood that Diploma Engineers Association of Railways (DEAR) held their Annual General Meeting at Garden Reach Railway Institute on January 19, 1997.

(b) In this Annual General Meeting the Association is reported to have deliberated on the utility of quality circles in railway services and other matters pertaining to safety in Railways in general.

(c) Letter addressed to G.M./S.E Railway by the Association does not contain any concrete suggestion

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Railway Link with Kandi

4026. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a survey was conducted to connect Kandi in Murshidabad district of West Bengal with railway line;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to update the said survey for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not connecting an important place of West Bengal with rail?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes Sir, a survey was conducted in 1991.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The survey revealed that the line would have negative return. In view of the constraint of resources this line could not be taken up.

Opening of New Institute of Tourism and Travel Management

4027. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan to open new Institute of Tourism and Travel Management in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Recently the Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management Baji Raut Regional Centre for Eastern India has been opened at Bhubaneshwar which will cater to the tourism training requirements of the Eastern and North-Eastern regions.

All Channel Programmes, West Bengal

4028. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the demand from West Bengal to telecast all Doordarshan Channels and Metro channel programmes through Bardhaman and Asansol TV Relay Centres;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the time by which the same is likely to be started from these stations?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c) Requests are received from time to time, from various quarters, for augmentation of TV service in various States. Whereas DD-2 and all other channels of Doordarshan are available throughout the country, including the entire State of West Bengal, via satellite by using appropriate dish antennae system, terrestrial transmission of DD-2 service is being extended in a phased manner depending on availability of resources and other infrastructural facilities. There is, however, no approved scheme, at present, to extend this facility to Asansol and Bardhaman.

Introduction of Express Train from Asansol to Rampurhat

4029. SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce an express train from Asansol to Rampurhat via Andal-Sainthia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the said train is likely to be introduced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Operational and resource constraints.

[Translation]

Production and Export of Aluminium

4030. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total annual production consumption of aluminium in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the total export of aluminium and aluminium products during the above period;

(c) whether the production is sufficient to meet the demand of the country; and

(d) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to absorb latest technology for better yield of aluminium?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b) The production of Aluminium, consumption and export of aluminium and articles thereof during the past three years i.e. from 1993-94 to 1995-96 is indicated below :-

Year	Production	Consumption	Export
1993-94	465165	410000	89661
1994-95	477801	471000	95099
1995-96	529264	521000	69636

(c) and (d) The installed capacity for production of aluminium of the five primary producers of aluminium is 6,70,000 tonnes; 3,18,000 tonnes capacity is in Public Sector and 3,52,000 tonnes is in private sector. The Primary Producers in the country take their decisions in respect of production of aluminium based on their commercial judgement. Besides aluminium metal and its articles thereof are under Open General Licence (OGL) of Export Import Policy. Each individual is free to do import and export of aluminium metal and articles thereof depending upon their commercial judgement. Similarly the decision to absorb that technology is dependent on the judgement of each enterprise.

[English]

Doordarshan/AIR Projects, Tripura

4031. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects for setting up of TV transmitters/AIR stations completed in Tripura, so far alongwith the number of pending projects, location-wise;

(b) the time by which the pending projects are likely to be completed; and